

AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

27. (Four times amended) ~~A porous free-flowing fungal [extrudate] granulate formed by extrusion which consists essentially of intact dead [fungi] microorganisms or dead [fungal] microbial cells obtained by mechanical extrusion of a [fungal] microbial biomass, the [extrudate] granulate having a structure that allows a solvent access, via the pores, to the intact dead cells [in order] to isolate or extract a [desired] compound therefrom.~~

28. (Four times amended) A composition [comprising] ~~consisting essentially of~~ granular particles of intact dead [fungal] microbial cells from a biomass which particles

- (a) are obtained by granulating the biomass having a dry matter content of 25 to 80%;
- (b) have a dry matter content of at least 30% but less than 70%; and
- (c) have a structure that on drying allows isolation or extraction of a desired compound from the intact dead cells with a solvent through pores and/or channels.

30. (Four times amended) A composition which comprises dried porous granules ~~consisting essentially of dead [fungal] microbial cells, the dried granules being obtained by drying granular particles, themselves obtained by granulating a microbial biomass, said resultant dried granules having a dry matter content of at least 80% and a structure that allows, via the pores, solvent access [of a solvent] to a compound contained within the intact dead cells to isolate or extract the [a desired] compound therefrom.~~

Please add the following claims:

37. The granulate according to 27 wherein the microorganism is a fungus.

38. The granulate according to claim 37 wherein the fungus belongs to the order

*Mucorales.*

~~43~~  
~~39~~ The granulate according to claim ~~38~~ wherein the fungus belongs to the genus *Mortierella*.

~~41~~ ~~40~~ The granulate according to claim ~~39~~ wherein the fungus is *Mortierella alpina*.

~~45~~ ~~41~~ The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the compound is a polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA), optionally contained in a lipid.

~~46~~ ~~42~~ The granulate according to claim ~~41~~ wherein the polyunsaturated fatty acid is a C18, C20 or C22  $\omega$ -3- or a C18, C20 or C22  $\omega$ -6-polyunsaturated fatty acid.

~~47~~ ~~43~~ ~~45~~ The granulate according to claim ~~42~~ wherein the polyunsaturated fatty acid is a C20 or C22  $\omega$ -3- or a C20 or C22  $\omega$ -6-polyunsaturated fatty acid.

~~48~~ ~~44~~ The granulate according to claim ~~42~~ wherein the compound is arachidonic acid (ARA), eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and/or docosahexaenoic acid (DHA).

~~49~~ ~~48~~ The granulate according to claim ~~37~~ wherein the fungus belongs to the genus *Phycomyces*, *Blakeslea* or *Aspergillus*.

~~50~~ ~~46~~ The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the microorganism is a yeast.

~~51~~ ~~47~~ The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the compound is tetra-acetyl-phyto-sphingosine (TAPS).

~~52~~ ~~48~~ The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the microorganism is a bacterium.

~~53~~ ~~49~~ The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the compound is a vitamin--